MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS

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SUBJECT: DoD Policy Change -- Cancellation of the Technical Architecture Framework for Information Management (TAFIM)

By memorandum, "Strategic Direction for a DoD Architecture Framework", dated February 23, 1998, the tri-chairs of the Architecture Coordination Council (ACC) established the C4ISR Architecture Framework as a critical element of the strategic direction for all architecture efforts in the Department. The memorandum further directed that all on-going and planned efforts be described in accordance with Version 2.0 of the Framework. This new direction on architecture required a reevaluation of the utility of the TAFIM and other architecture related documentation and policies.

The reevaluation of the TAFIM has been recently been concluded by the ACC's Technical Architecture Steering Group (TASG). The TASG concurred that the TAFIM as a collective entity is inconsistent with this new direction. Further, the TASG recognized that TAFIM legacy elements, such as a Technical Reference Model (TRM), need to be continued since it is the source for the DoD Joint Technical Architecture (JTA) and Defense Information Infrastructure (DII) Common Operating Environment (COE) (DII COE) as well as DoD's compliance with the Clinger-Cohen Act. Although all references to the TAFIM have been removed from DoD Directive 5000.1 and DoD Regulation 5000.2-R, it remains as a source document in the library section of the Defense Acquisition Deskbook and elsewhere. This inconsistency has led to some confusion within the communities developing and using architectures. Hence, the mandate for the use of TAFIM as collective entity is hereby rescinded and reference to TAFIM will be removed from all DoD documentation.

In addition to taking on the responsibility for the TRM, the TASG is continuing efforts to determine whether other legacy elements of the TAFIM should be retained. These elements will be reviewed and modified if necessary, to ensure consistency with the new direction on architecture or other needs such as Information Assurance. We ask that you support these efforts.

Addresses are requested to ensure widest dissemination of this memorandum. The Director, Joint Staff, is requested to forward this memorandum to the Combatant Commands.

The point of contact for this action is Mr. Jack Zavin, of the Information Integration and Interoperability Directorate. Mr. Zavin can be reached at (703) 607-0238 or via e-mail: jack.zavin@osd.pentagon.mil

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